Basingstoke Observer

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Thursday, December 12 - Wednesday, December 18, 2013 Advertising/Newsdesk: 01235 511700 www.basingstokeobserver.co.uk

DEESIDE CARE HOME TO SHUT

Borough council slams county's decision as "unacceptable"

BASINGSTOKE and Deane Borough Council (BDBC) has expressed its dismay over the decision to close Deeside care home for good.

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

On Monday, Hampshire County Council (HCC's) cabinet voted to close the centre, as well as Bulmer House in Petersfield and Nightingale Lodge in Romsey.

HCC leader, Cllr Roy Perry, described the decision as "very difficult", but necessary, as it was not economically viable to bring the buildings up to modern standards.

Over 7,000 signatures had been collected by Basingstoke residents in a bid to keep the home open.

BDBC cabinet member for Partnerships, Councillor Cathy Osselton, wrote to HCC in October advising against closing Deeside.

But her words did not change the decision, as the cabinet voted unanimously in shutting the three centres.

Deeside, in Alliston Way, South Ham, will not be closed until the specialist wing of Oakridge Care Home is opened, estimated to be autumn next year.

However, Cllr Osselton said the outcome was "unacceptable".

"Although the county council has agreed to delay the closure for up to a year, this is still an unacceptable outcome for residents, their families and staff at Deeside, which provides an excellent standard of care and quality of life," she said.

"The strength of feeling in the borough is clear with more than 7,000 people signing the petition against closure.

"Inevitably, current residents will be affected by the county's longer-term plans and our council remains unconvinced that adequate alternative accommodation will be made available to them, particularly for those suffering from dementia and needing round the clock support.

"I will continue to take a keen interest in this group of vulnerable people and where they are eventually placed."

Alan Stone, treasurer of Save Deeside, added: "Everyone's putting a brave face on it, but we're all incredibly disappointed.

"Especially with the fact it was unanimous vote against us."

Lynn Rich, whose mother-in-law is a Deeside resident, said: "As a group we are proud of how we conducted ourselves and feel we did everything in our power to keep our home open."

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Mr Stone confirmed that, after a meeting on Tuesday night, the group would continue to fight, and hinted they would attempt to secure a full judicial review on the decision.

Cllr Perry has vowed HCC will work closely with residents and families to make the transition as easy as possible.

"This has been a very difficult decision because we are conscious that we are talking about people's homes," he said.

"We want to ensure their care needs are properly met now, as well as ensuring that care can be delivered in the best possible way in the future.

"Our dedicated care staff will now work closely with the residents of Deeside, Bulmer House and Nightingale Lodge and their

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Care home rises to the occasion

A BASINGSTOKE care home has hosted the final of a national Christmas-themed bake off competition today.

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

Resident and chef teams from Gracewell Healthcare homes across the country competed for Star Baker at Pemberley House care home on Grove Road.

Each team chose their recipe from the theme of 'decades' - their Grandma's traditional recipe from the 1950s or their favourite gingerbread house from the 1970s.

Artisan baker, Jan Barrett, from The Bakehouse in Old Basing, was on hand to cast her expert eye over the cakes and give advice on how to achieve the perfect Christmas bake.

Jan said: "The standard has been excellent and I've really enjoyed hearing the stories behind each one of the bakes.

"Baking is great fun, young or old and it is an excellent way to bring people together. Well done to everyone who took part."

The winning resident team was from Randell House in Camberley and 93-year-old team member Stella Thomas said she was delighted to be top of the bakes.

She said: "Our traditional Christmas bake was a real team effort. We were all involved every step of the way - right from the first grain of flour to the decorations on top."

The winning chef team was from Abercorn House in Camberley.

Gracewell Healthcare CEO Peter Curtis was also part of the judging team and said he was impressed by the high level of baking on show.

He said: "Bake Off fever gripped the nation this summer and was a firm favourite with our residents so we thought that we would hold our own Christmas version of the competition.

"It's been a fantastic day and I've thoroughly enjoyed being a judge. The cakes were excellent and I would like to congratulate everyone who took part – you are all Star Bakers!"

• Pemberley House was the venue of Christmas-themed Bake Off

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'We'll support residents'

• From front page

families to fully support them as they make their choices about alternative accommodation.

"We will ensure that they are treated with care and consideration and will work to manage and minimise any concerns and uncertainty sensitively.

"Residents will be given all the time they need to find the right setting, and where residents want to stay together we will work to ensure that friendship groups can be accommodated."

Music funds up for grabs

HAMPSHIRE'S budding musicians are being invited to apply for a share of funding, ready for the 2014 round of the Dayas Music Scholarship.

The annual grants scheme is administered by Hampshire County Council for people aged 18 or over, offering grants to help them refresh their musical skills.

It was set up after a sum of money was left to the council by Mrs Gwendoline Hayton, nee Dayas, who was a former Hampshire music teacher.

Cllr Peter Edgar, executive member for education, said: "The gift of music is invaluable. Singing or playing an instrument is immensely rewarding and has an added benefit in contributing to emotional well-being.

"The Dayas Music Scholarships give people above school-age the chance to apply for some financial support to pursue new musical interests, to have lessons or to further develop skills in areas such as composition."

"The application process is in writing so there need be no audition fears – this is not the X Factor or Hampshire's Got Talent.

"However a Dayas scholarship grant could help you become a celebrity amongst your family and friends!"

Application forms are available from the council's Music Service on 023 8065 2037, or by

Cops released image after 'unprovoked' attack

POLICE have released an image of a man they would like to speak to, following an assault that took place in Basingstoke back in September.

The incident took place in the early hours of Sunday, September 15, near to the Red Lion Hotel car park.

A 20-year-old man was hit on the head by an unknown man during the assault, which resulted in swelling and grazing to the victim.

The suspect is described as white, with dark short hair and was wearing a green T-shirt with a white motif at the time of the incident.

PC Ed Wiggans said: "Do you recognise this man? We think he can assist with our investigation into this unprovoked attack."

Anyone with information should contact PC Wiggans at Basingstoke Police Station by calling the police non-emergency number 101.

Alternatively, call Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

• Police are looking to speak with this man

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Tuning into a new kind of local radio

TWO Basingstoke teenagers hope to promote as much local music talent as possible, by launching a radio station dedicated to promoting the Basingstoke music scene.

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

Schoolfriends Ian Redman, 18, and Tristan Noon, 19, have started Basingstoke Now.

The idea was conceived a year ago, and the station was launched online on not-for-profit radio platform Radionomy, a website which allows anybody to set up an online radio station.

Ian said: "It occurred to us that you have local radio stations, but you don't tend to hear as much local music on them.

"That's what we're hoping will drive us forward – obviously the big radio stations hold the majority of the listeners, so we can't really compete directly with those.

"But if we can tap into something that they don't do, we might be able to find a niche in terms of playing local music as well as songs that you would hear more frequently."

The station is hoping to dedicate a significant amount of its airtime to local bands, and have taken the first step this week.

Basingstoke-based band Hologram have had their first track loaded onto the radio's system this week.

And Ian told the Observer the pair were in talks to add another artist 'imminently'.

Basingstoke Now is currently in a trial stage, even though it is accessible for anybody to listen to online.

And Ian said he and Tristan were still making tweaks to the concept, which they hope will launch in its full capacity in the New Year.

"Although we don't have a precise idea of when we'll officially launch, we would like to be up and running by the end of January – that's what we have in mind, all being well, if we get the listenership that is expected.

"When I started working on this, I didn't realise just how many local bands and artists there were out there.

"We're working through a list of who is out there. People are saying it's an interesting idea.

"That's the start of that element of the station. There's been quite a bit more interest in it. There is a lot of potential to tap into."

• Ian Redman and Tristan Noon

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Police appeal after theft

POLICE are appealing for information after hand and power tools were stolen from a van in Basingstoke.

The van was parked at Morrisons on Worting Road between midday and 1pm last Tuesday (December 3).

Basingstoke's police have also issued a number of safety tips to keep contents of vehicles safe:

Park your vehicle in a secure area (in a garage or behind locked gates, if possible).

If you do not have a secure parking place, park in a well-lit street in easy view of your own or neighbours houses.

Vans have been broken into while people were inside trade establishments - park your vehicles close to the entrance or leave someone with it.

Ensure all windows and doors are properly secured when left unattended.

Where possible, remove valuable items from the vehicle overnight and store them in a secure place.

Do not leave tools or equipment on view inside the vehicle.

Consider fitting an appropriate alarm system, protecting the cabin and load areas.

Apply a security marking product to power tools and equipment

Alternatively, etch or emboss identifiable marks to these items, and consider installing secure storage containers or lockers in the van to store the tools in.

Brownies gather for Christingle service

THE Rainbows, Brownies and Guides of the South Ham and Brighton Hill Division gathered at St Peters Church in Pinkerton road last week for their annual Christingle service.

Basingstoke Mayor, Councillor Dan Putty along with wife Julie attended the service, as well as County Commissioner Liz Brown.

Girls from all sections took part in the service, leading prayers, readings and moments of thoughts for others.

Reverend Alison Bennett led the carols for the division's fifth annual service, overseeing the candles being lit during the special Christingle hymn and a collection for childrens hospice The Bluebells, run by Sebastian's Action Trust.

"As the lights went out there was that wow factor," said Lena Ponting, division commissioner.

"Everyone stared at their flickering candle in the darkness. The service is always well attended and brings people from across the community together."

Alternating each year, the service is held either at St Josephs, St Peters or St Leonards in Cliddesden.

Reverend Bennett added: "This service has really started the Christmas season for me."

• Brownies at the Christingle service

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'Grateful for all the love and support'

PETER Hancock, the Bishop of Basingstoke, will become the next Bishop of Bath and Wells, it was announced on Tuesday.

He will take up this appointment in the New Year.

"I'm grateful to all the priests and parishes in Winchester Diocese for all the love and support for me and [my wife] Jane in all the years in which I have served as Bishop of Basingstoke," he said.

"I'm leaving the Diocese at an exciting time. I've learned a great deal and hope to be able to share some of that in Bath and Wells."

Tim Dakin, the Bishop of Winchester, added: "It is with great pleasure, albeit tinged with personal sadness, that I can confirm that Peter Hancock will be leaving the Diocese of Winchester to become the next Bishop of Bath and Wells.

"Since joining from Portsmouth in 2010, Bishop Peter has made an enormous contribution to the life of the Diocese of Winchester.

"He has made a great many friends across Winchester's parishes and I wish him and his family the very best as they make the move to Somerset."

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Sleeping rough in times of Crisis...

By **James Booker**

news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

SERVICEMEN from RAF Odiham have experienced life on the streets in support of 'Crisis', a national charity for single homeless people, dedicated to ending homelessness by delivering life-changing services and campaigning for change.

Sergeant Richard Wilkinson, Corporal Colin Campbell and Corporal Roy Paddon from RAF Odiham's Force Protection Training Flight spent 24 hours living and sleeping next to the Main Gate in order to raise awareness of the charity, and to attempt to raise; money, food and clothes, which was given to the 'Crisis' charity, and subsequently handed out by another RAF Odiham team in Basingstoke on Monday.

Commencing at 6am on December 3, the team set up camp armed with only blankets, the clothes they were wearing and some cardboard to put on the ground. They would be completely reliant on the generosity of personnel entering and exiting the main gate for food and drink.

Corporal Paddon said: "I was amazed by the support that Service personnel and their families gave us.

• The team next to the main gate

"The station café donated hot food and coffee, and someone even went out of their way at 1.30am to buy us a MacDonald's!"

Corporal Campbell, who is also giving up a period of his Christmas leave to support the charity, said: "Fundraising isn't something that should be taken lightly, it is a privilege to be in a position to help those less fortunate than ourselves.

"All personnel on Station helped to make our endeavour the success it was."

In their 24-hour stint the team raised over £1,100, as well as clothes, sweets, crisps and food boxes.

There is still plenty of time to donate, with the charity being desperate to receive; canned/dried food, dehydrated food, unwanted thermal mugs, warm clothing and unwanted sleeping bags or tents.

Sergeant Wilkinson said: "We would like to thank all personnel stationed or visiting RAF Odiham for their generosity, we were truly left speechless.

"I hope that it will make Christmas a little more bearable for those people that are in need."

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Everybody needs good neighbours

BASINGSTOKE residents can nominate their neighbours for the county's annual awards honouring those next door.

Hampshire County Council is calling for nominations for its Good Neighbour Awards, which are held to recognise residents who volunteer and give their neighbours a 'bit of help'.

The awards were introduced in 2005 by HCC chairman, Councillor Ken Thornber, who will host this year's awards ceremony in the Great Hall, Winchester on March 20.

"All too often good deeds can go unnoticed, which is why it is important that we pay tribute to the efforts of Hampshire's volunteers," he said.

"There are thousands of people across the county who are good neighbours providing vital support within their local community.

"Anyone who receives help from a neighbour and would like to say thank you should nominate them for a Good Neighbour Award.

"These individuals probably don't think twice about what a wonderful job they are doing for someone else.

"But they deserve our thanks."

Nominations can be made by can downloading a from www.hants.gov.uk/goodneighbourawards.

The closing date to submit nominations is Monday January 20.

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We need to think of future - Hampshire council chief

HAMPSHIRE County Council's leader had reiterated the importance of building for the future.

Councillor Roy Perry has said they would also work to protect jobs, and not look to implement a 'major' outsourcing of services.

He also emphasised the intention to keep council tax at the lowest rates possible.

"The local government landscape is changing rapidly and while other councils are reducing capacity and buying in services from private companies or other local authorities, Hampshire's approach is different," said Cllr Perry.

"I've already said that we are not planning any major outsourcing of services and we plan to stay in business and protect jobs as far as possible, providing the best services we can, while keeping the council tax low.

"That means building and strengthening our own in-house services, and to do that we've tapped into expert knowledge and private industry experience and ensured we have applied independent scrutiny.

"The public sector needs to learn from the private sector.

"Our approach to change, our drive to deliver better outcomes with less money, our focus on reform and an innovative approach to partnerships is delivering results that mean we are now on target to deliver our £200m savings target.

"Those savings are largely forced on us because we are losing 40 per cent of our grant from central government.

"Our success in making those savings is one of the reasons why Hampshire is in a position to continue to make significant investments into services such as £45million into care for the elderly and £165million into new, high quality school places.

"We also intend to grow the £100m trading income we receive from selling services to other organisations, all of which helps protect frontline services further."

Cllr Perry also reacted to a question posed at the last full council meeting about HCC's use of consultants.

"Consultants have played a part in our success in reducing the cost of our corporate support functions such as the arrangements for sharing corporate services with Hampshire Constabulary and Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service, which only last week were heralded by the Justice Minister."

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

Find us on Twitter @BasingstokeNews

'Suspicious' individual flees after being caught eyeing up house in Basingstoke

POLICE want to speak to a suspicious-looking man who seemed to be eyeing up a property in Basingstoke last month.

The man was seen in the garden of a house in Berrydown Lane on November 24, and appeared to be taking an interest in house next door.

He was challenged by the homeowner, but fled the scene immediately.

He is described as being white, around 30, 5ft 9ins tall, and of skinny to medium build. He had short dark hair and stubble.

Police have released an E-fit of the man in question.

Contact Police Staff Investigator Rosanna Brown at Basingstoke Police Station on 101 with information.

· **Do you recognise this man?**

Beware of unlicensed vehicles...

BASINGSTOKE is officially a great place for a festive night out – but revellers are being advised to be careful how they travel home afterwards.

As the party season gets underway, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC) is reminding people to stay safe at night by always using licensed taxis and private hire vehicles, either pre-booked or from an official taxi rank in the town.

In September, the council asked people about their evening leisure experiences in the town centre.

The results show most people (86.1 per cent) find the town centre safe, accessible and with a good choice of dining, retail and arts venues.

More than half felt their nighttime experience had improved over the past five years.

Councillor Hayley Eachus, cabinet member responsible for licensing, said: "Basingstoke has a lot to offer for a great night out, especially at this time of year, and a well-deserved reputation for accessibility and safety.

"Nonetheless, people should be aware that unlicensed operators without proper insurance or security checks will sometimes present themselves as a legitimate taxi service.

"It's not worth the risk – stay safe and always use a taxi rank or pre-book a licensed vehicle and driver."

• Last year's festival

Building on success of previous years

NEXT year's School Games Festival in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight is set to build on the huge success of previous years, thanks to £45,000 of National Lottery funding.

The Local Organising Committee (LOC) for Hampshire and the Isle of Wight has been awarded the funding from Sport England to deliver the School Games festival, sponsored by Sainsbury's, next year.

It will be the culmination of year-round competitions within schools and between schools, with the most talented athletes progressing to compete across a number of sports including athletics, new age kurling, hockey, girls football, and cycling.

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

The 2014 County Sports Festivals will be bigger than ever before with an expected 150 festivals across the country, 175,000 students – including 17,000 students with a disability - and 25,000 volunteers.

There are 46 LOCs in England which are responsible for organising and delivering the festivals.

Anna Dawson, Head Teacher at Samuel Cody Specialist Sports College & Chair of the Hampshire Local Organising Committee, said: "This funding provides us with the opportunity to continue to build on all the excellent work that has been done in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight for the past few years.

"The investment enables us to deliver a meaningful competitive pathway and leadership opportunities for the young people of Hampshire and the Isle of Wight."

Sport England's Strategic Lead – Youth, Suzanne Glavin, said: "The Sainsbury's School Games Festivals play a critical role in inspiring a generation of youngsters to play sport by providing them with opportunities to take part in competitive school sport.

"It also introduces talented athletes to high level competition, and with the help of the sport governing bodies, they are supported and signposted to further opportunities to compete and develop their talent.

"We are delighted to award this funding to Hampshire and the Isle of Wight and would like to thank them for the work they do in making these events happen."

The School Games Level 3 festival in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight will take place in Aldershot on Friday 20th June 2013.

For further information visit www.sporthampshireiow.co.uk/hampshire.

Do you have a story to share with our readers?

Contact the Newsdesk on **01235 516930**

or email **news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk**

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Gas mask and medals are stolen in 'Stoke burglary

A GAS mask and ceremonial medals were among several items stolen during a Basingstoke burglary on December 1.

Offenders broke into the property on Phoenix Park Terrace around 11.30am and stole a number of belongings.

As well as the gas mask and the medals, two designer watches, two passports, two digital cameras and video editing software were also taken.

PC David Catchpole from Basingstoke police station said: "This burglary happened during the day on the outskirts of the main town centre and it is therefore likely that people would have been in the area.

"If you saw anyone suspicious, or have any information about the incident, you should contact the police.

"I would urge you to check your home security now that we are fast approaching the shortest day of the year, consider alarms and security lights."

Anyone with information about this incident should contact PC Catchpole at Basingstoke police station by calling 101.

Hammering home message of drink-drive consequences

A SERIES of hard hitting videos spelling out the heartbreaking consequences of drink and drug driving are being released by Hampshire Police.

This year, the police campaign focuses on the story of Evey Staley, a ten-year-who was killed when her parents car was hit by another car being driven by a drink and drug driver as they pulled out of their driveway.

Inspector Andy Storey, who is heading this year's campaign, said: "I'd urge everyone to watch these videos to the end.

"They are extremely emotive and painful to watch. But that is nothing compared to the pain and suffering the Staley family continue to experience.

"They have shown extraordinary strength in telling their story to us to help us get across this vital message, and to try and stop any other family having to suffer as they have and continue to as a result of drink and drug driving.

"All those involved with the crash were and remain affected by it, as the videos demonstrate.

"Evey is the reason we are wearing purple ribbons this Christmas, to remember her and all those who have died as result of drunk or drugged drivers.

"Drink and drug driving ruins lives. If you know someone who drink drives or takes drugs before getting behind the wheel, I would strongly urge you to get in touch anonymously by text on 80999 or by calling police. Don't hesitate, just do it. You could save a life."

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Community project boost

FUNDING to boost community projects in Basingstoke has been made available as part of The Neighbourhood Partnership for the area.

The 'Your Community, Your Choice' grants, of up to £2,000, aim to assist voluntary and community organisations to deliver sustainable projects in the Buckskin and South Ham area.

The grants were approved by Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council (BDBC), in partnership with Soverign Housing Association.

The Neighbourhood Partnership brings together representatives from community associations, community planning groups, faith groups, borough and county councillors with agencies and police to enable people to influence and improve the quality of community life.

The projects requiring the additional funding will need to demonstrate that they meet at least one of the criteria by providing a service or activity which has been identified as being needed by residents, improving community health and wellbeing, strengthening community-based activities and enhancing the local environment.

The application deadline is January 7. Residents can get more information on the projects and then vote on which ones they would like to get some funding from 3pm to 7pm on January 29 at Ridgeway Centre, Buckskin and Westside Community Centre, South Ham.

If it looks too good to be true, it probably is

SHOPPERS in Basingstoke are being warned not to fall for fake items as they look for cheaper products in the lead up to Christmas.

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

Every year the county council's Trading Standards officers seize thousands of fake designer goods.

Popular counterfeit items include health and beauty products, jewellery, clothing and accessories, handbags, camera and mobile phone batteries, watches, electrical items, boots, shoes and trainers as well as fake DVDs, music CDs, tobacco, cigarettes, alcohol and children's toys.

These can offer a cheap alternative to buying from high street shops, but are often made from inferior materials, can be dangerous, and could result in injury or even death.

Counterfeit cosmetics and perfumes can often contain untested and harmful substances that may burn the skin or leave a rash.

Fake electrical items may seem like a bargain but they can be electrically unsafe and could overheat, explode or burn out quickly.

Hampshire's Trading Standards officers regularly visit car boot sales and markets, and trawl the internet to protect consumers and legitimate traders across the county and crack down on the problem.

Anyone found selling counterfeit goods could be arrested and may face prosecution.

Councillor Roy Perry, leader of Hampshire County Council and executive member for Policy and Resources, said: "As many people look to budget over the festive period, there is the temptation to look for those bargain gifts. However, the advice from Trading Standards is to avoid buying fake goods this Christmas.

"Some of the products seized by officers this year were not just poor quality, but they were also dangerous.

"Make sure that you're buying from a trustworthy source and, in particular, avoid internet auctions and websites offering designer goods at bargain prices.

"If a deal sounds too-good-to-be-true, then it usually is."

Anyone who has bought a product they think might be fake, or knows of someone selling counterfeit products, should report the seller to Hampshire County Council Trading Standards by calling Citizens Advice on 08454 04 05 06.

RAF Odiham support for the Philippines

SERVICEMEN from RAF Odiham have deployed to the Philippines in order to support the UK Department for International Development's humanitarian and disaster relief mission, after the devastation of Typhoon HAIYAN.

The Joint Helicopter Squadron Team

A four-man team from RAF Odiham's Joint Helicopter Support Squadron deployed on November 19, flying directly to Singapore to convene with HMS Illustrious.

After loading 500 tonnes of humanitarian aid on to the ship, they set sail for the Philippines on November 22, and arrived two days later.

The team consists of Flight Lieutenant Ian Rees (RAF) the Mobile Air Operations Team leader, Corporal Wellesley Houghton (RLC), Senior Aircraftsman Graeme Ardley (RAF) and Private Callum Sanderson (RLC) assisted with a number of reconnaissance flights on islands North West of the main island of Panay before heading North East.

As a result of these flights, Flight Lieutenant Rees and Corporal Houghton were able to deploy onto the ground with assessment teams, accompanied by a specialist from the Department for International Development, who provided information on the requirements of the population.

Each assessment team that outlined a need to distribute aid was supported by a number of assistance teams. Within the first 72 hours, 70 tonnes of aid was distributed.

The team and HMS Illustrious will continue to visit further island clusters around the central Philippine island of Panay to assess the needs of the local communities and provide vital assistance.

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Saving you money

A SCHEME, which opened on Tuesday, could save Basingstoke residents money on energy bills. Switch Hampshire is a project being run by the county council to try and take the hassle out of switching energy suppliers.

HCC's executive member for Income and Capital Resources, Councillor Mel Kendal, said: "Switch Hampshire could provide access to cheaper energy and has the potential to bring significant benefits."

Lottery results

ST MICHAEL'S Hospice has announced the results from its lottery draw from December 6. First prize of £1,000 goes to ticket 51775 of Tadley, while second prize of £100 is awarded to 23849 of Baughurst. Basingstoke ticket 17716 picks up third prize of £50, while Hook ticket 50029 is awarded fourth prize of £20.

Sixteen runner-up prizes of £5 are given to tickets 10722, 15401, 19973, 27343, 31272, 33947, 40225, 42595, 52822, 58503, 60666, 66373, 72547, 73279, 76564 and 84983.

Metal pole attack

A MAN has been jailed after drunkenly attacking another man with a metal bar at a house party in Basingstoke.

Bradley Riley, of Buckskin, was sentenced to 18 months in prison for unlawful wounding, and six months suspended for affray. Riley, 26, attacked his 52-year-old victim at a house in South Ham in April, leaving him unconscious.

Remember to recycle your Christmas trees

MOST Christmas trees are either up or just about to be put up by people getting ready for the festive season.

By **James Booker**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

However, trees need to be disposed of once the Christmas period ends.

Twenty-one recyclingsites have been set up in Basingstoke and Deane for people to do just that, between January 3 and 26.

Every year, around eight million real Christmas trees are thrown away in the UK, creating about 160,000 tonnes of additional waste.

If the trees are recycled instead they are then transformed into soil conditioner and wood chippings, which the council then uses for the borough's parks.

If residents miss the collections at these locations, they can take their tree to the recycling centre on Wade Road. The opening hours at Wade Road are 8am to 4pm. Cabinet member for The Environment, Cllr Robert Donnell, said: "After all the festivities are over it can be a real pain to dispose of the tree. By taking it to one of the locations across the borough it can then be turned into soil conditioner which will help our gardens to bloom."

For further information contact BDBC on 01256 844844 or visit www.basingstoke.gov.uk/go/recycle.

Christmas tree drop-off points in Basingstoke and Deane:

- Basingstoke Town Centre, War Memorial Park (Crossborough Hill car park)
- Basingstoke, Homebase, Winchester Road
- Brighton Hill, Gershwin Road, Sports Pavilion
- Burghclere, Harts Lane, Sports club car park
- Eastrop, Eastrop Park (Boat House car park)
- Hatch Warren, Community Centre, Long Cross Lane
- Headley, Darling Buds of May, Newbury Road
- Kingsclere, Fieldgate Centre
- Lasham, Avenue Nurseries Garden Centre, The Avenue
- North Waltham, Wyevale Garden Centre
- Oakley, Oakley Lane (school lay-by)
- Oakridge, Upper Sherborne Road playing fields
- Overton, Overton Hill Car Park
- Pamber End, Elm Park Garden Centre, Aldermaston Road
- Popley, Carpenters Down Open Space
- Sherfield on Loddon, Wyevale Garden Centre
- Silchester, The Pavilion car park
- South Ham, Russell Howard car park
- Tadley, Hangar Road (parking bays next to Wigmore Park)
- Whitchurch, Winchester Road car park
- Winklebury, Winklebury Way playing field

'I'm not one to relax', says winner Simon

BASINGSTOKE'S Simon Hood is celebrating this week, after being named Young Business Person of the Year at the Inspire North Hampshire Business Awards.

The head of marketing at international relocation company, HCR Group, impressed judges with a steady stream of outstanding achievements since graduating from university in 2009.

He started his career with HCR as a marketing executive - handling the company's PR, events, e-marketing and advertising.

He was quickly promoted to his current role, heading up marketing for the entire group.

"I'm not one to relax when I go home at night," said Simon. "I always have a number of projects on the go.

"At the moment that includes an app that seems to be proving popular - and another in the pipeline."

Simon teamed up with two business partners to create the novel poker app and Facebook game - Texas Ask'em Poker.

"I'm developing my second app now, called Rolling Grandpa. It's a bit of fun and I'm hoping it will be just as popular," he added.

• **Simon Hood**

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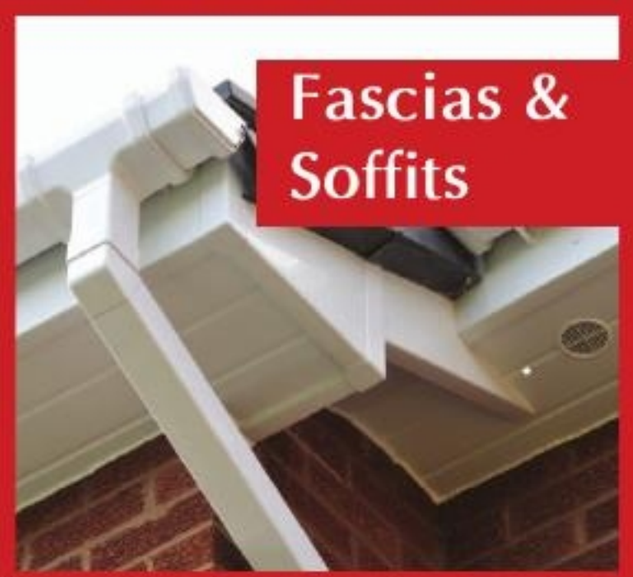

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Entertainment

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If you would like your event considered for publication please contact reporter Adam Flinn at adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk or telephone 01235 516933

New Proteus project

BASINGSTOKE-BASED theatre company Proteus return with their newest show The Story Factory from today, as well as offering a unique tour of their building for the festive season.

The show comprises of Christmas storytelling sessions for adults, focusing on six whimsical characters as they puzzle over the Proteus Creation Space's past, as well as what the future may hold.

Using every room in the building, The Story Factory celebrates one of Basingstoke's most historical venues in the Creation Space.

It originally opened as a school in 1888, and was formerly the Fairfields Arts Centre before relaunching as the home of the Proteus theatre group earlier this year.

Ross Harvie, director at Proteus, said: "It's a promenade show, and audience members will be able to actively make the journey around the building and engage with it.

"Some of the audience members will be able to participate, and will get to take part in an art lesson and in a school nativity.

"There's eight performers, all local to North Hampshire, and most of them have been members of Proteus for a number of years.

"They've worked locally in different sorts of environments before, and have done site-specific pieces in the past.

"The challenge is actually about telling stories rather than acting, and doing a piece of storytelling rather than necessarily taking on a character, so there's a bit more engagement with the audience.

Shows are scheduled to take place at 7pm, 8pm and 9pm, and will be running today, tomorrow and Saturday with limited availability.

For more information, phone 01256 321621 or go to the Proteus website: www.proteustheatre.com.

By **Adam Flinn**
adam@taylornewspapers.co.uk

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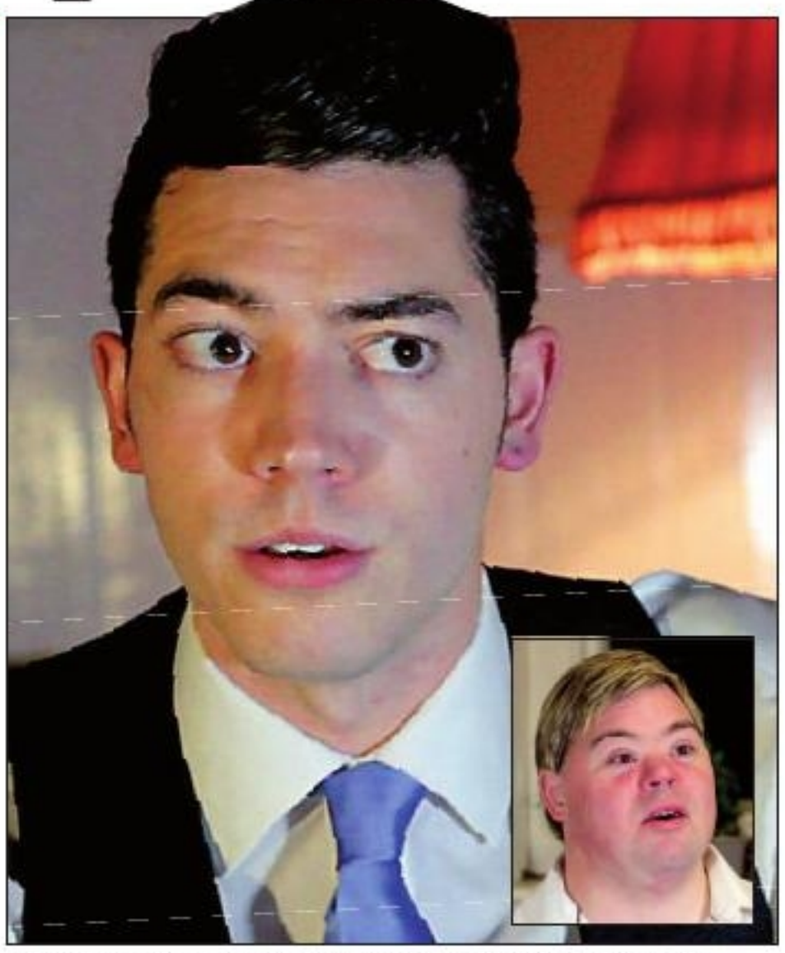

• The Story Factory performers Liam Elvish and (inset) Richard Morgans (Pictures by Ben Mills)

Mixing the best of both bands

DEEP Purple and Led Zeppelin tribute act Purple Zeppelin bring their two and a half hour show of the two bands' hits to the Bordon Phoenix on Saturday.

The show comes complete with costume changes, to take people back to the atmosphere of one of the original gigs.

Tickets cost £10 for an 8pm start. Go to www.phoenix-arts.co.uk or phone 01420 472664.

Discovering poetry with Bryn

LOCAL actor and writer Bryn Strudwick reads a selection of festive poems at the Basingstoke Discovery Centre this afternoon, to get visitors in the Christmas spirit.

Mince pies, cake and hot drinks will also be on offer at the centre from 2pm, with tickets costing £3. For more information, go to www.hants.gov.uk/bsdc.

Scarlet Soho at The Railway

INDIE pop group Scarlet Soho head to The Railway, Winchester, on Saturday, returning to the UK while in the process of writing material for their forthcoming third album.

The band is known for mashing genres together to create the perfect pop, and released their debut album 'Divisions of Decency' in 2004 with their unique style.

Doors open at 6pm, and tickets cost £8 on the door. For more details, go to www.railwaylive.co.uk or phone 01962 867795.

Punt and Dennis are in town...

STEVE Punt and Hugh Dennis are warming up ahead of their national tour, and will be performing at Central Studio tomorrow evening.

The comedy duo have been performing together since they met at Cambridge University back in the early 1980s, and were one half of popular sketch show The Mary Whitehouse Experience.

For further details about tomorrow's show, go to www.centralstudio.co.uk.

Alternatively, call 01256 418318.

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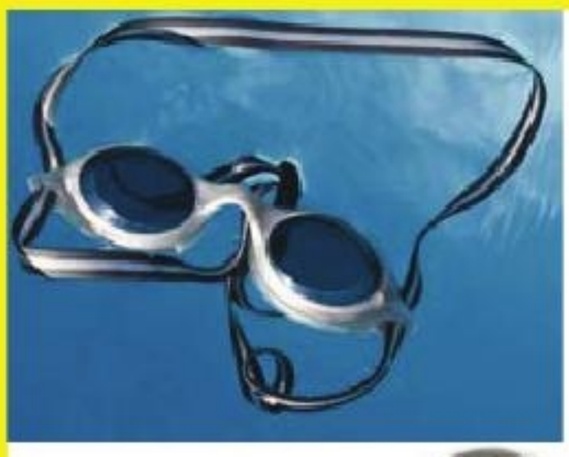

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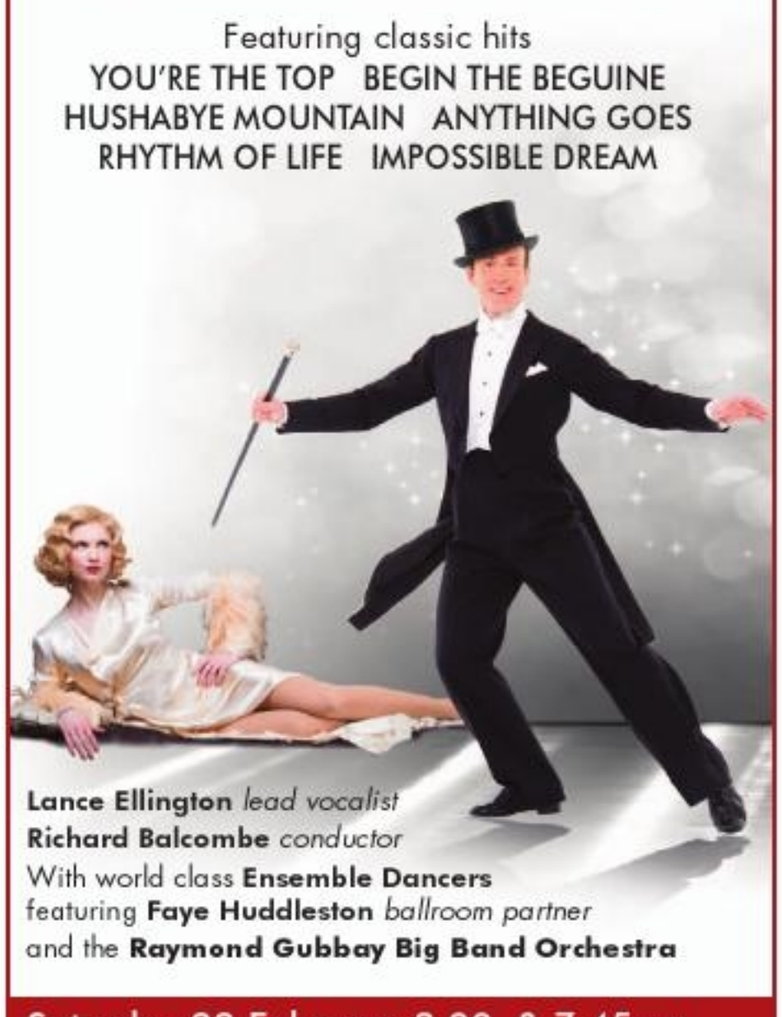

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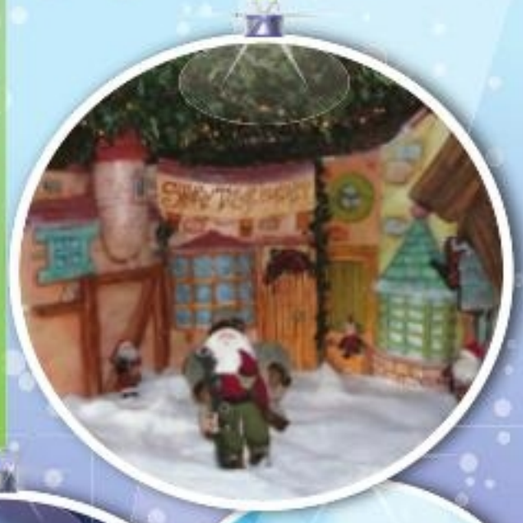

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Advertising Feature

Master baker Paul Hollywood reignites our appetite for traditional foods

Humble pie gets the Hollywood touch

By **Andy Welch**

"GOOD bake". "Nice crumb". "It's over-proved". "The gluten hasn't developed".

Four years ago, only expert bakers would have understood these terms. Now, thanks to Paul Hollywood and his Great British Bake Off co-judge Mary Berry, they've become familiar phrases in millions of home up and down the UK.

And it's not just Bake Off terminology that's been on the rise - the show has led to a staggering revival in home baking too.

"I can't go a day without someone coming up to me and showing me a photo on their phone of their latest loaf or cake," says Hollywood, 47. "I love it."

There's no respite on Twitter either, where celebrities including Fearne Cotton and Sarah Millican have taken to sending the famous baker pictures of their bakes, or asking for tips.

The fourth series of Bake Off ended recently with 31-year-old Frances Quinn's surprise victory, and once again supermarkets reported increased sales of baking ingredients and cake-making tools along the way.

"Where's my share?" jokes Hollywood. "I haven't got any money out of it."

That, of course, isn't quite true. The chef, who was born in Cheshire and is taking a live baking show on a tour of the UK next April, is now synonymous with baking. His Bread series and book were huge hits earlier this year and he's never been more in demand. Just two weeks after filming finished for Bake Off, he went straight to work on his latest offering, Pies & Puds. There's a book out now and a TV series will follow.

"It's hard fitting it all in," he says. "There's always something, but it's good to have loads going on, especially when it's all so much fun to work on.

"There are thousands of recipes out there, and it's just about being able to pick the right ones, harness the right ideas, and put them in a great package for people to try themselves."

There's no shortage of mouth-watering recipes in Pies & Puds. In the same way Bread introduced novices to basic techniques and walked them through more advanced methods, Pies & Puds includes basics like sausage rolls and quickly moves on to slightly more challenging tasks.

These include pasties, bread and butter pudding made with croissants and cherries, and various types of pastry.

The book is, as Hollywood says, like a cookery course, and one of his favourite recipes is his take on a classic. "I do a beef and ale pie, but use water buffalo instead of regular beef, and I must say the pie is absolutely gorgeous.

"Throughout the book I've twisted things, added new flavours, modernised classics and come up with a load of recipes that are beautiful to eat. It's about comfort food, really, and I'm celebrating what Britain's good at - pies, puddings and pastries."

"The main thing about everything I do is that I just love teaching. The idea that people are learning while watching and being inspired to try things is absolutely brilliant."

• *Bacon & egg pie, featured in Paul Hollywood's Pies & Puds, published by Bloomsbury. Photo credit: PA Photo/Peter Cassidy/Bloomsbury.*

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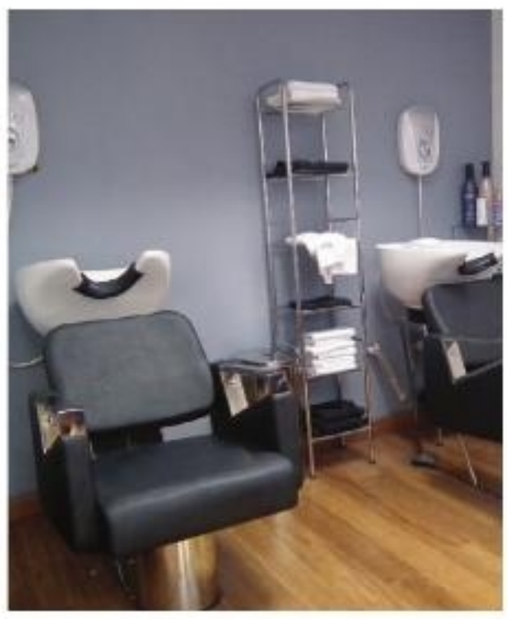

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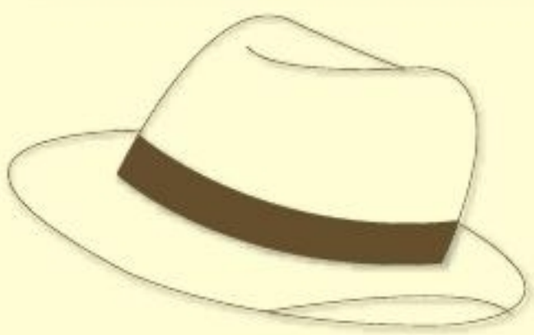

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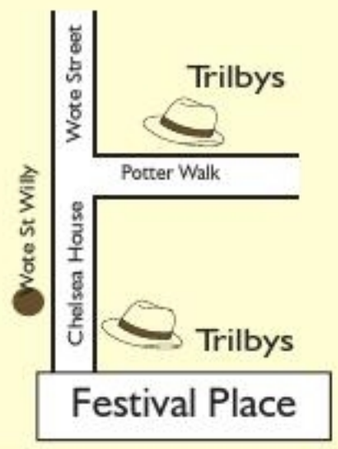

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£119 PER MONTH

10 10 Vauxhall Zafira 1.9 CDTi Elite Blue

WAS £22,890 NOW £9,495

SAVE £13,395

£109 PER MONTH

10 10 Vauxhall Insignia 2.0 CDTi ecoFlex Grey

WAS £24,320 NOW £8,995

SAVE £15,325

£89 PER MONTH

10 10 Vauxhall Corsa 1.2 16v SXi 5dr Blue

WAS £13,750 NOW £6,495

SAVE £7,255

£99 PER MONTH

10 10 Vauxhall Zafira 1.6i (115) Exclusiv Silver

WAS £17,385 NOW £7,995

SAVE £9,390

£119 PER MONTH

11 11 Vauxhall Zafira 1.4i 16v (100) S Blue

WAS £20,175 NOW £9,495

SAVE £10,680

£99 PER MONTH

10 10 Vauxhall Corsa 1.4i 16v (100) S Blue

WAS £15,275 NOW £6,995

SAVE £8,280

Representative Finance Example for Vauxhall Corsa 1.4i 16V (100) S:

Cash Price	£6995.00	Initial Payment	£274.90
Deposit/Part Exchange	£2000.00	58 Monthly Payments	£99.90
Total Amount of Credit	£4995.00	Final Payment	£274.90
Purchase Fee	£10.00	Duration of Agreement	60 months
Credit Facility Fee	£34.00	Representative APR	10.3% APR
Total Amount Payable	£8344.00	Interest Rate (fixed)	7.42%

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WHY WOULD YOU GO ANYWHERE ELSE?

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Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only. These offers supersede all previously advertised offers. Prices correct at time of going to press. Offers are subject to availability. Licenced credit brokers, written details available on request, finance is subject to status. E&OE. 53850

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£1000 CASHBACK AND NO DEPOSIT ON OUR CARS

DON'T MISS OUT! CALL US NOW!

12 62 FORD FOCUS
1.0 ZETEC ECOBOOST
WAS £13695 NOW £12995
SAVE £700

ONLY £286 A MONTH

13 63 FORD TRANSIT TOURNEO CUSTOM TITANIUM 9 SEAT
WAS £26875+VAT NOW £21995+VAT
SAVE £4880

ONLY £350 A MONTH

13 13 HONDA JAZZ
1.4 ES CVT AUTO 5DR
WAS £15600 NOW £11995
SAVE £3605

ONLY £199 A MONTH

10 10 FORD FIESTA 1.25
ZETEC 5 DR OCEAN BLUE
WAS £8295 NOW £7995
SAVE £300

ONLY £209 A MONTH

Representative Finance Example for 13 Reg Honda Jazz 1.4 ES CVT Auto 5dr: Cash Price £11995.00, Deposit £0.00, Initial Payment £225.65, 58 Monthly Payments £225.65,

Autoplaza
Houndmills Autoplaza, Aldermaston Road South, Basingstoke Hampshire RG21 6YL
www.autoplaza.co.uk

Christmas Opening Hours

December
Monday 23rd Dec - Normal
Xmas Eve - 10am-2pm
Xmas Day - Closed
Boxing Day - Closed
Friday 27th Dec - Normal
Saturday 28th Dec - Normal
Sunday 29th Dec - Normal
Monday 30th Dec - Normal
New Year's Eve - 10am-2pm

January
New Years Day - 10am-4pm
Thursday 2nd Jan - Normal
Friday 3rd Jan - Normal

Up to £1000 cashback dependant on vehicle selling price. Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only. These offers supersede all previously advertised offers. Prices correct at time of going to press. Offers are subject to availability. Licenced credit brokers, written details available on request, finance is subject to status. E&OE. 0844 numbers charged at local rate. 53805

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SAVE £2695

13 63 SEAT TOLEDO
1.6 TDI
WAS £16640 NOW £12995
SAVE £3645

13 13 PEUGEOT 208
1.2 ACTIVE 5DR
WAS £13,640 NOW £10,795
SAVE £2,845

10 60 SKODA ROOMSTER
WAS £9995 NOW £7995
SAVE £2000

13 13 PEUGEOT 107
ACTIVE 5DR
WAS £10,115 NOW £7,895
SAVE £2,220

13 13 SKODA NEW SHAPE OCTAVIA
WAS £21885 NOW £15995
SAVE £5890

13 13 PEUGEOT RCZ
1.6 THP 200 GT BLUE
WAS £27,155 NOW £18,395
SAVE £8,760

Final Payment £400.65, Total Amount Payable £13714.00, Duration of Agreement 60 months, Interest Charges £1719.00, Representative APR 5.5%

PEUGEOT CITY PEUGEOT	HONDA CITY HONDA	CITROEN CITY CITROEN	SEAT CITY SEAT	SKODA CITY SKODA	GOWRINGS FORD BASINGSTOKE	SUZUKI CITY SUZUKI
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Up to £1000 cashback dependant on vehicle selling price. Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only. These offers supersede all previously advertised offers. Prices correct at time of going to press. Offers are subject to availability. Licenced credit brokers, written details available on request, finance is subject to status. E&OE. 0844 numbers charged at local rate. 53695

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CITROËN

*+VAT. Price based on Citroen personal finance. Must be ordered and registered by December 20th 2013. Images for illustration purposes only. Terms and conditions apply. Finance subject to status.

Official Government fuel consumption figures (Range): Urban cycle, Extra urban, Combined (litres per 100km/mpg) & CO_2 emissions (g/km); Highest: Citroën C1 1.0i 68 EGS 5-door VTR+ 5.4/52.3, 4.0/70.6, 4.5/62.8, 104. Lowest: Citroën C1 1.0i 68 manual 3-door VT 5.1/55.4, 3.8/74.3, 4.3/65.7, 99. MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions.

CITY BASINGSTOKE | 0844 846 4327

ALDERMASTON ROAD, HOUNDMILLS, BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE, RG21 6YL www.citybasingstoke.citroen.co.uk

53621

13 REG FORD FIESTA 1.25 82PS 5DR ZETEC

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Newbury Motor Park, Pinchington Lane, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 7HT **0844 178 7454**

www.gowringsford.co.uk

Official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) Ford Car range: urban 58.9 - 30.4 (4.8-8.9), extra urban 78.5 - 54.3 (3.6-5.2), combined 68.9 - 42.8 (4.1-6.6). Official CO2 emission 107-154g/km.
When purchased using Ford Finance. Vehicles shown for illustration purposes only. This supersedes all previously advertised manufacturer's promotions. Details correct at time of going to print. Subject to availability. Contact us for terms and conditions. 0844 numbers charged at local rate. 13876

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195/60 HR15	£62.95
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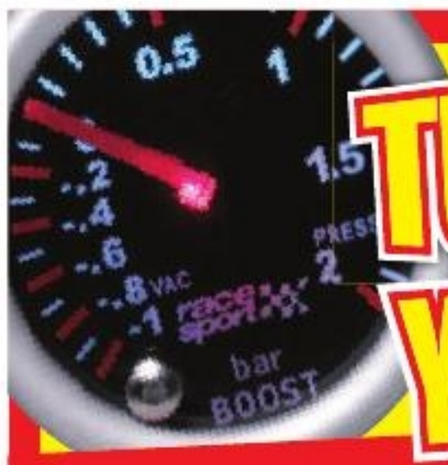

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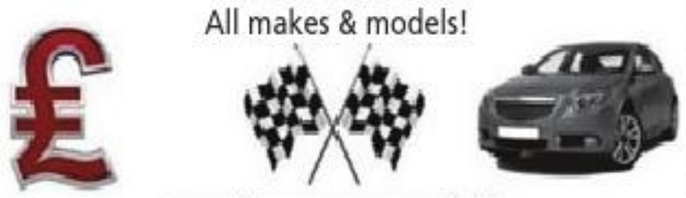

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www.fastfitservicecentre.com matt@fastfitservicecentre.com

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XBOX 360 elite, xbox 360 elite console with 2 wireless controllers, network adaptor and 2 games, £100, 07732389266

PRAM, graco 4 wheel travel system, £80, 07789358643

DVDS for children, shrek 1 & 2, willie wonka, w of oz, £6, 01256470765

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DVDS, dinner ladies on dvd, series 1 & 2, , £4, 01256470765

DVDS, inspector morse on dvd, complete series (box set) 33 dvds, £25, 01256470765

DVDS, prime suspect (box set) complete series, 8 dvds, £10, 01256470765

DVDS, cracker (box set) complete collection, 10 dvds, £10, 01256470765

For Sale

DVDS, a touch of frost (box set), all episodes, complete series, 36 dvds, £30, 01256470765

DVDS, dads army, complete series, all episodes, 14 dvds, £15, 01256470765

DVDS, csi (box set), 24 dvds, series 1 -4, £20, 01256470765

DVDS, james bond films, various, 13 dvds, £20, 01256470765

DVDS, david attenborough, living planet (box set), £10, 01256470765

BEDROOM drawers , mahogany "stag" minstrel 3 dr in vgc, £65, 01256470765

SOLID pine bookshelves, excellent condition. 5ftx3ftx1ft. from a smoke free pet free home. collect from hook area, £50, 07550012560

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FIRE engine sit & push'n long, fire engine sit and push along 18mths - 2years good condition, £5, 07831947754

DVDS, just good friends, series 1 & 2, vgc, £5, 01256470765

DVDS, godfather film set (box set) complete series vgc, , £6, 01256470765

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Bournemouth

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3 March - 7 March ..... £130 10 March - 14 March £130
17 March - 21 March ..... £130 24 March - 28 March £135
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14 April - 18 April.....£140

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DVDS, x-files (box set), series 1,2 &4 (21 dvds), £20, 01256470765

POWER wheelchair, sunrise samba lite quickie 2wheelchair in good condition 2 new batteries fitted, 400 o n o, 07501588456

HORNBY railway zero one contoller, r 950 master contoller and 3 r951 slave controllers , £20, 01256 851167

PECO streamline sl100x rail , 00 guage flexible track four 90cm lengths unused "6, £6, 01256 851167

BEATRIX potter, character ceramic figures wanted by private collector., £0, 01189 413708

TV stand.3 Shelves, 3shelves, glass,excellent condition., £30.00 Ono., 07554006787

YANKEE screwdriver, model130a (collectable), £10, 07771592517

FRIDGE, beko under counter silver, £50, 01256881783

JACOBS chuck, 2-13mm brand new with key, £10, 07771592517

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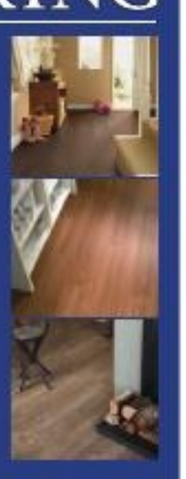

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Macey's Jam Boys keep marching on

WHITCHURCH United extended their unbeaten run in the Wessex Premier League to 11 games on Tuesday night, following a 3-1 away win against Lymington Town.

The Jamboys were winners on Saturday as well, with another away victory as they beat Verwood Town 1-0.

The results mean that Whitchurch have climbed to sixth in the standings with 40 points, eight behind current leaders Winchester City.

Tadley Calleva earned their first point of the month as they battled to a 3-3 draw at home with Wessex First Division leaders Andover Town.

Calleva have struggled in recent matches, but Tuesday night's draw means they are 10th in the standings after 16 games, with 16 points.

Whitchurch next travel to Romsey Town while Calleva host New Milton Town on Saturday.

Hartley Wintney succumbed to their fourth consecutive Combined Counties Premier league defeat on Saturday, after a 3-1 away loss to Ash United.

After a strong start to the season, Wintney have only won once in their last eight league games, and sit 14th in the standings with 23 points.

They face Ash United again on Saturday in the home fixture, after Tuesday night's match against Epsom and Ewell was postponed.

Find us on Twitter @BasingstokeNews

Double delight for Bison and Sheppard

By **Adam Flinn**
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

BASINGSTOKE Bison moved up to second in the English Premier Ice Hockey League at the weekend, following wins over Telford Tigers and Guildford Flames.

Saturday saw a comfortable 5-1 win for Bison at home to the Tigers, and they were 3-0 up within the first 20 minutes.

Tomas Karpov got Bison's first after just over five minutes, as he scored following a rebound from Joe Greener's shot.

Doug Sheppard added a second after deflecting in Joe Baird's point shot on a powerplay, while Miroslav Vantroba got the third sailed through the glove of Tigers' netminder Sam Gospel.

It was the visitors who got the first goal of the second period as Nathan Salem scored a powerplay, assisted by Scott McKenzie and Callum Bowley.

Joe Miller quickly restored Bison's three-goal advantage, picking up a loose puck from behind the Tigers' net to score off of the back of Gospel.

Andy Melachrino got Bison's fifth just before the end of the second period, and with no further scoring in the final 20 minutes, the score stayed at 5-1.

Sunday's game was a closer affair, and Bison had to come from behind and score an overtime winner as they beat the Flames 4-3 away from home.

Karpov had given Bison the lead with the only goal in the first period, but the Flames grabbed an equaliser through Jozef Kohut in the second to leave the score at 1-1.

Two powerplay goals from Kohut and David Savage gave the hosts the advantage with 11 minutes remaining, following Baird's ejection on a 5+ game penalty for boarding.

Greener was able to pull a goal back at 55:42 and Vantroba quickly added another at 56:40 to send the game into overtime, earning each team at least a point.

But Bison weren't finished, and Karpov secured the winner at 63:14 to earn the Herd an extra point, and jump above the Flames to second in the league standings.

Basingstoke are on the road for both of their games next weekend, visiting Swindon Wildcats on Saturday followed by a trip to Slough Jets on Sunday.

Sport Bites

Rose seventh

JUSTIN Rose recovered from a poor start at the Nedbank Golf Challenge, South Africa, over the weekend, eventually finishing in a tie for seventh place.

Rose was four over par after the opening nine holes, but rounds of 73, 67, 69 and 67 meant he finished on 12 under par, eight shots behind tournament winner Thomas Bjørn.

The North Hampshire golfer is also in the running for the 2013 BBC Sports Personality of the Year award, which will be presented in Leeds on Sunday.

Bridet beaten

EASTROP heavyweight amateur boxer Greg Bridet was beaten on his Great Britain debut, losing on points to Tom Honka in the semi-finals of the Tammer Tournament in Finland.

He had been given a bye to the semi-final stages, but lost on a unanimous points decision to the more experienced Honka.

Rain Karlsson of Estonia won the tournament, beating Honka in the final on a split points decision.

Running well

DISTANCE runner Charlotte Purdue enjoyed success at the European Cross Country Championships in Serbia earlier this week, collecting two medals at the event in Belgrade.

The 22-year-old from Hook took bronze in the individual under-23 6km race having led at one stage, and was also a part of a team gold in the same event as five British runners were in the top-eight places.

Barnes too good for Basingstoke as Croker's men toil, despite efforts of, er, Barnes!

BASINGSTOKE RFC lost their second game in succession on Saturday, following a 31-17 defeat away to London-based club Barnes.

Proceedings got off to the worst possible start for Basingstoke after they conceded a try within the opening 20 seconds, which was promptly converted.

But 'Stoke had the better first half, and were level after 22 minutes as Freddie Gleadowe got a try of his own before Andy Barnes kicked the conversion.

'Stoke's Barnes then put the visitors ahead with a penalty, but the home side scored another converted try to go in 14-10 ahead at the break.

Basingstoke were soon back ahead early in the second half as Jobi Kochonowski scored a try, and Andy Barnes once again converted.

But the home side were able to pull ahead with three more tries, the last of which coming in injury time, to end the match as 31-17 winners.

The result means that Basingstoke have 25 points from 12 games, just three ahead of Barnes who currently sit in the relegation zone.

'Stoke will be hoping to make amends for their recent defeats as they host fourth-placed Tonbridge Juddians this weekend.

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Inside: Double delight for Bison and Sheppard | Macey's Jam Boys keep marching on | Running well

WIN VERY IMPORTANT - BRISTOW

Boss happy as Dragons down Poppies to grab first win and goals for five games

JASON Bristow was pleased with the way his fringe players acquitted themselves in Tuesday's 2-0 win over Bournemouth Poppies.

By James Booker
news@basingstokeobserver.co.uk

A Kezie Ibe brace saw a Dragons side, much changed from Saturday's 1-0 defeat at Chelmsford, safely through to the fourth round of the Hampshire Senior Cup.

The plucky Wessex League outfit made life difficult for Bristow's men on an uneven pitch, but the visitors came through unscathed.

It was the first time Basingstoke have won or scored in five games.

"It was a difficult pitch, but we came away with a lot of credit," said Bristow.

"The lads played really well, scored two very good goals, and possibly should have had more.

"We kept ticking over and it was a good evening for us.

"The play deserved more goals – there were some dubious offside decisions given against us – otherwise I think we would have had more.

"The build up and approach play was good – we just need to tidy up around the penalty area, which we've known for the last couple of weeks.

"After Saturday, we were very disappointed. We didn't play very well, and didn't get the result we wanted.

"There are going to be times during the year where we don't play as well, but we need to grind out results or nick a goal ourselves.

"But we didn't do that last Saturday, and it was important we went out on Tuesday and got the win ahead of what will be a very tough game on Saturday.

"All the players did themselves justice on Tuesday – there are some big decisions to be made ahead of Saturday."

Saturday sees Bristow's men entertain table-topping Bromley, who are seven points clear with 13 wins from 17 matches.

They edged out the Dragons 3-2 in the reverse fixture in September, but Bristow believes his side, currently eighth, can get something from the game.

"Bromley are absolutely flying at the moment," said Bristow. "They had a really, really good away win this week at Dover. They're top of the league for a reason.

"But we've got a very good squad ourselves, and if we can match them and play the way we know we can then we've got a chance."

Bournemouth Poppies 0
Basingstoke Town 2

• Kezie Ibe (left) bagged two goals for Basingstoke on Tuesday (Picture by Les Chase)

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